MARVEL
1
GANG WAR
JACKPOT
BRONFMAN
VAZQUEZ
DELGADO

GANG WAR

MARY JANE WATSON HAS HAD A LOT OF JOBS... MODEL! ACTRESS! ENTREPRENEUR! EXECUTIVE! HER NEW JOB? SUPER HERO! HER GAUNTLET, POWERED BY A SUPERNATURAL LANGUAGE OF SYMBOLS, GENERATES AN INFINITE NUMBER OF POWERS FOR HER TO USE, RANGING FROM THE AWESOME, TO THE USELESS, TO THE DEADLY. WITH A SIMPLE SPIN, MARY JANE BECOMES...

JACKPOT

With the recent loss of their children, **Mary Jane** and her partner (and engineer of her gauntlet), **Paul**, have been working through unfathomable grief. At the urging of her friend **Black Cat**, MJ has begun to cope by helping the community with her new powers. The training wheels are about to come off though. A Gang War is brewing, and it may be too much for **Spider-Man** and his squad to handle on their own. Luckily, Team Spidey just hit the jackpot!

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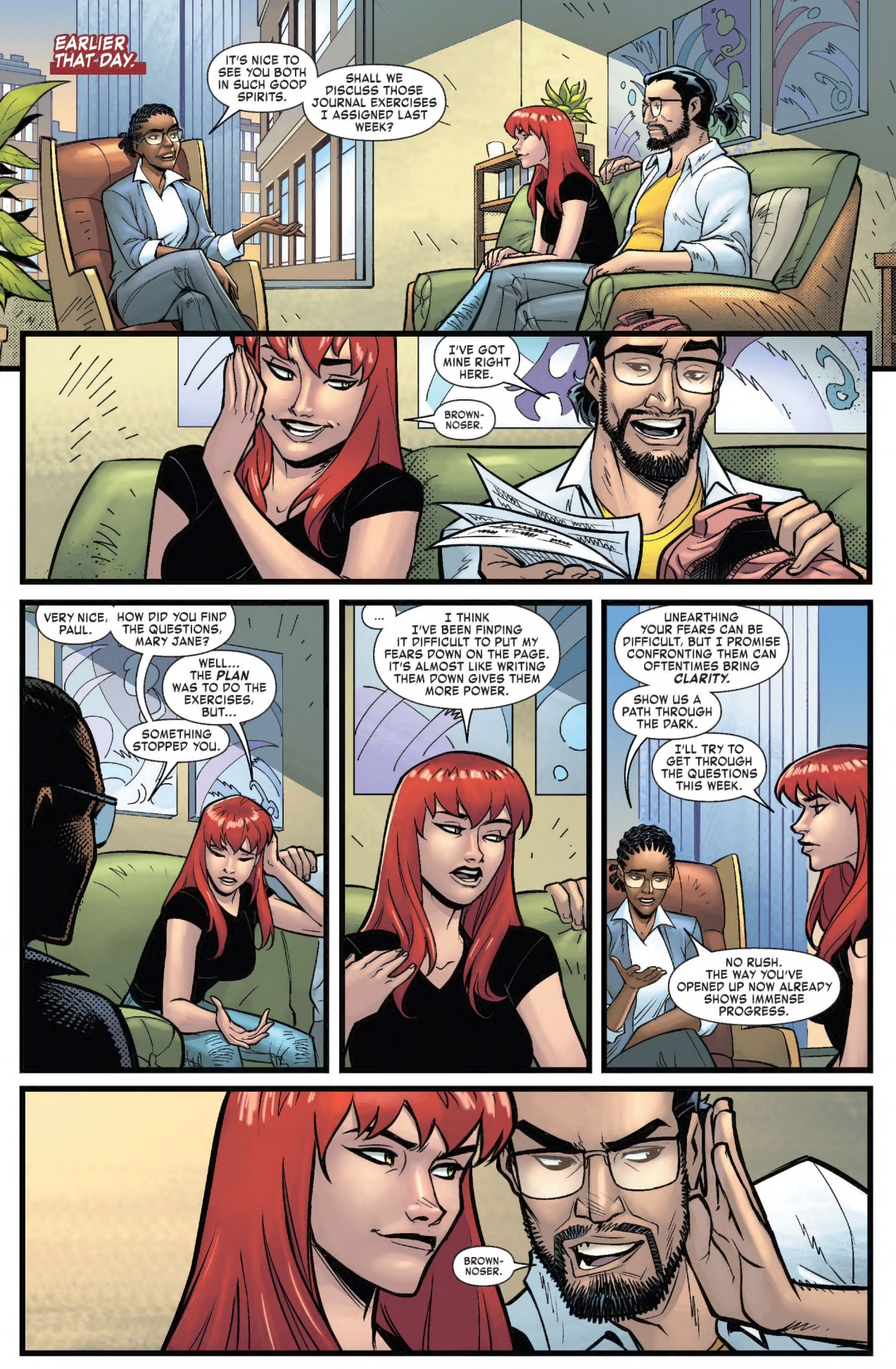
GANG WAR
TERRITORIES
BEETLE
BEETLE
THE MENAGERIE
OWL
CENTRAL PARK
THE HEAT
MADAME MASQUE
MADAME MASQUE
MR. NEGATIVE
DIAMONDBACK
LADY YULAN
HOBGOBLIN
FIVE WEAPONS SOCIETY

OUR CHOICES LEAD US EXACTLY WHERE WE'RE MEANT TO BE.

POP
POP
POP
POP
POP
JACKPOT... WHAT A DUMB NAME.
NOT SURE WHAT CASINO GAVE YOU THESE KIDDIE-CORNER POWERS, BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU-- WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS SHOULD STAY IN VEGAS.
AAAAAH!
ZAAAAAPP
TZZZZZT
SO IT'S FAIR TO ASK WHICH OF MY CHOICES LANDED ME HERE...
COME ON, COME ON.
TZZT
TZZT


EARLIER THAT DAY...
IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU BOTH IN SUCH GOOD SPIRITS.
SHALL WE DISCUSS THOSE JOURNAL EXERCISES I ASSIGNED LAST WEEK?
I'VE GOT MINE RIGHT HERE.
BROWN-NOSER.
VERY NICE, PAUL.
HOW DID YOU FIND THE QUESTIONS, MARY JANE?
WELL... THE PLAN WAS TO DO THE EXERCISES, BUT...
SOMETHING STOPPED YOU.
... I THINK I'VE BEEN FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO PUT MY FEARS DOWN ON THE PAGE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE WRITING THEM DOWN GIVES THEM MORE POWER.
UNEARTHING YOUR FEARS CAN BE DIFFICULT, BUT I PROMISE CONFRONTING THEM CAN OFTENTIMES BRING CLARITY.
SHOW US A PATH THROUGH THE DARK.
I'LL TRY TO GET THROUGH THE QUESTIONS THIS WEEK.
NO RUSH. THE WAY YOU'VE OPENED UP NOW ALREADY SHOWS IMMENSE PROGRESS.
BROWN-NOSER.

SUNRISE COUNSELING CLINIC
CASSIDY'S PUB
OPEN
WHICH DO YOU THINK CAME FIRST? THE GRIEF-COUNSELING CLINIC OR THE BAR NEXT DOOR?
I THINK... ANSWERING A PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTION LIKE THAT REQUIRES WE HAVE AT LEAST ONE DRINK IN OUR SYSTEMS FIRST.
GREAT ANSWER!
WHAT ARE THOSE?
THE BARTENDER'S SPECIAL CONCOCTION. HE'S AN ARTISTE!
OH GOD.
CHEERS TO IT ONLY GETTING BETTER FROM THIS SIP FORWARD.
PFFT
BOOM!
LOOKS LIKE I SPOKE TOO SOON.

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON?
COME ANY CLOSER AND YOU'LL BE TREADING ON MADAME MASQUE'S TURF.
THESE RIGHT HERE ARE BIG BEN'S STREETS. AND HE'S ASSIGNED US WITH KEEPING THEM SQUEAKY CLEAN.
SO EITHER YOU BACK OFF NOW, OR WE'LL BE FORCED TO MOP THEM UP WITH YOUR BLOOD.
TV SHOP
TV SHOP
WEAPONS UP, SOLDIERS!
FIRE!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
RAP RAP RAP RAP RAP
RAP RAP RAP RAP RAP
WE'VE GOT TO GET THOSE PEOPLE OUT OF THERE.
I'LL CLEAR A PATH.

BRRHABRRHABRRHA
KA-
KAPOOOM
GET DOWN!
GO!
BOOM
NICE DISTRACTION, PAUL!
THIS WAY. COME ON.

THANK YOU!
IF MADAME MASQUE AND BIG BEN ARE OUT HERE IN THE OPEN FIGHTING FOR TERRITORY, I'M SURE THEY'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES.
WE'LL BE HOME SOON, SWEETIE!
IT SEEMS THIS WHOLE CITY IS ABOUT TO BECOME A WAR ZONE.
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.
TIME TO SHOW THESE POWER-HUNGRY MEGALOMANIACS WHO THEY'RE DEALING WITH.

DING DING DING
THE MODIFICATIONS SEEM TO BE WORKING...SO FAR, PAUL.
DING DING DING
THE POWER LIMITER WAS SUPPOSED TO HELP WITH YOUR ANXIETY.
WELL THE CITY'S GOING UP IN FLAMES, AND THE LIMITER'S JUST REDUCED MY BEST SUPER POWER OUTCOMES.
IT'S ALSO MINIMIZED YOUR WEAKEST ONES. AND HOPEFULLY MADE THE, YOU KNOW, CERTAIN-DEATH POSSIBILITY IMPOSSIBLE.
I SPENT DAYS FINE-TUNING THESE LEVELS.
I KNOW.

ALL RIGHT. I'M READY FOR YOUR EYES AND EARS.
LOOKS LIKE THE MENAGERIE IS MAKING A BIG MOVE.
LIVE
HEADING TOWARD THE SMOKE SIGNAL NOW.

THE BRONX.
THWIP
A SPIDER-MAN-SHAPED RUG IS GOING TO LOOK REALLY NICE IN MY PLACE.
OOF. THAT IMAGE ISN'T GOING TO HELP WITH MY INSOMNIA.
I KEEP TELLING YOU TO SEE A SLEEP SPECIALIST ABOUT THAT.
MJ! I'VE HAD A LOT GOING ON.
LET ME HELP LIGHTEN THE LOAD.

THWIP
HEY, OVER HERE!
BROUGHT A FRIEND, SPIDER-MAN?
THAT'S FINE. THE HARDER YOU FIGHT, THE HARDER YOU'RE GONNA FALL!
DING
DING
DING
VERY WISE WORDS, ARMADILLO!
THWIP
LIKING THESE *VINE POWERS.* THEY WORK WELL WITH YOUR WEBS.
THAT'S WHAT WE CALL POETIC JUSTICE, ARMADILLO.

LIKE THE HORNS? I JUST GOT THEM SHARPENED.
HOPE THEY GAVE YOU A DISCOUNT, BECAUSE YOUR PROPERTY-DAMAGE FINES HERE ARE REALLY RACKING UP.
OH, MJ, YOU'VE MET SHE-HULK, RIGHT? SHE'S HELPING WITH THIS WHOLE GANG WAR THING.
LET'S HELP HER OUT, THEN.
YOU'D BETTER ASK HIM.
DING DING DING
THIS IS GOING TO STING, MAN-BULL.
APPRECIATE THE ASSIST.
I WAS JUST LOOKING OUT FOR THAT POOR BULL'S BANK ACCOUNT.

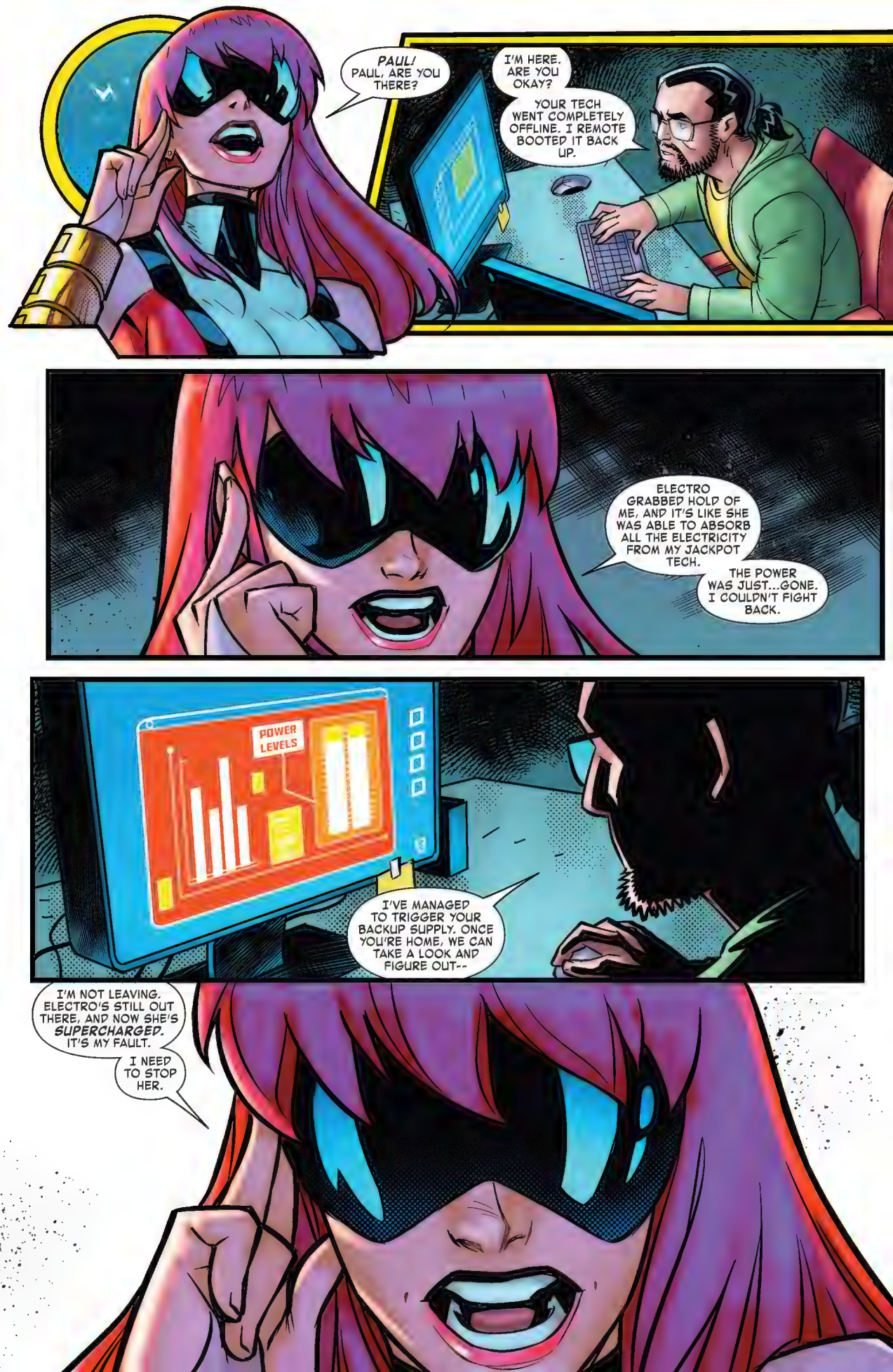
SHE-HULK.
JACKPOT.
WELL, JACKPOT. IF YOU'RE EVER IN NEED OF LEGAL ADVICE, I'D LOVE TO RETURN THE FAVOR.
YOU'LL DEFINITELY NEED IT IF YOU KEEP HANGING AROUND *THAT* GUY.
JUST HEARD BACK FROM THE OTHER SPIDEY. HE'S GOT A SITUATION WITH HOBGOBLIN NEAR THE MANHATTAN BRIDGE.
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?
I WAS GOING TO TAKE THOSE IDIOTS DOWN.

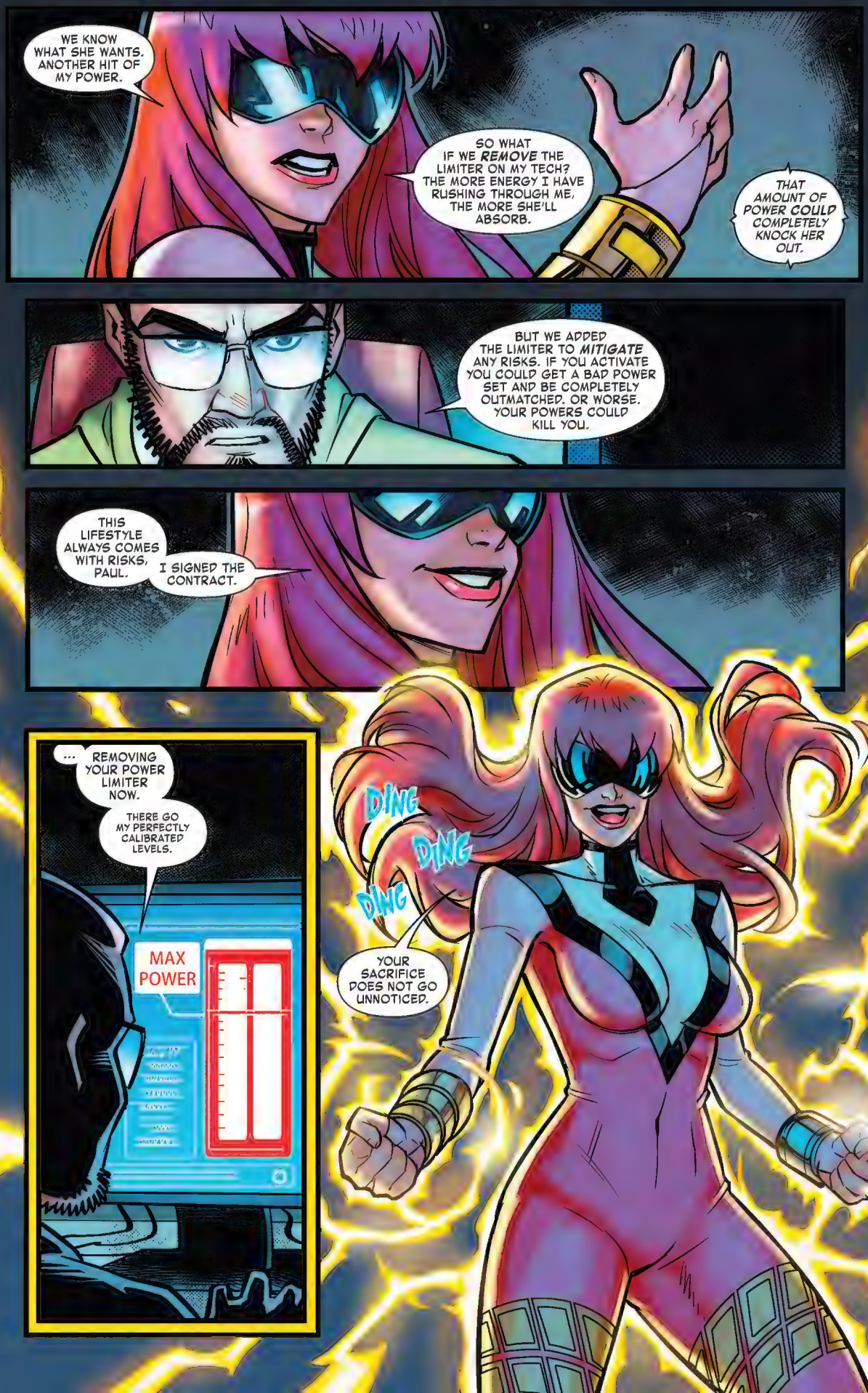
AN ARMADILLO, A BULL, AND NOW THIS CLOWN. OH MY!
BUT I GUESS I'LL SETTLE FOR YOU BONEHEADS INSTEAD.
MY LEAST FAVORITE ELECTRO. JUST WHAT I NEED...
GO REGROUP. I'VE GOT YOU COVERED.
BE SAFE.
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE MY LINE.
NOW GO!

AW! WHAT CUTE, SHINY TECH YOU HAVE.
ALL THE BETTER TO DEFEAT YOU WITH.
AW SWEETIE, YOU'RE ALL STYLE. NO SUBSTANCE.
WHAM
ARGHHH!
THUD
THUD

BACK IN THE NOW!
JACKPOT... WHAT A DUMB NAME.
LIKE I SAID, LIFE IS ALL ABOUT THE CHOICES WE MAKE.
NOT SURE WHAT CASINO GAVE YOU THESE KIDDIE-CORNER POWERS, BUT THEY SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU-- WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS SHOULD STAY IN VEGAS.
OOO...YOUR ELECTRICITY IS RUSHING RIGHT THROUGH ME.
I NEED MORE!
NOW, THAT'S A HIGH!
COME ON, COME ON.
AND I'VE GOTTA BELIEVE IF MY CHOICES GOT ME INTO THIS MESS, THEY CAN GET ME OUT OF IT TOO.

THERE WE GO.
YOW!
OH, JACK-Y, JACK-Y, JACKPOT!
WHERE ARE YOU, MY LUCKY CHARM? I'M IN NEED OF ANOTHER HIT.
PHEW
WORK, DAMMIT!


PAUL! PAUL, ARE YOU THERE?
I'M HERE. ARE YOU OKAY?
YOUR TECH WENT COMPLETELY OFFLINE. I REMOTE BOOTED IT BACK UP.
ELECTRO GRABBED HOLD OF ME, AND IT'S LIKE SHE WAS ABLE TO ABSORB ALL THE ELECTRICITY FROM MY JACKPOT TECH.
THE POWER WAS JUST...GONE. I COULDN'T FIGHT BACK.
POWER LEVELS
I'VE MANAGED TO TRIGGER YOUR BACKUP SUPPLY. ONCE YOU'RE HOME, WE CAN TAKE A LOOK AND FIGURE OUT--
I'M NOT LEAVING. ELECTRO'S STILL OUT THERE, AND NOW SHE'S SUPERCHARGED. IT'S MY FAULT.
I NEED TO STOP HER.


WE KNOW WHAT SHE WANTS. ANOTHER HIT OF MY POWER.
SO WHAT IF WE REMOVE THE LIMITER ON MY TECH? THE MORE ENERGY I HAVE RUSHING THROUGH ME, THE MORE SHE'LL ABSORB.
THAT AMOUNT OF POWER COULD COMPLETELY KNOCK HER OUT.
BUT WE ADDED THE LIMITER TO MITIGATE ANY RISKS. IF YOU ACTIVATE YOU COULD GET A BAD POWER SET AND BE COMPLETELY OUTMATCHED. OR WORSE. YOUR POWERS COULD KILL YOU.
THIS LIFESTYLE ALWAYS COMES WITH RISKS, PAUL.
I SIGNED THE CONTRACT.
... REMOVING YOUR POWER LIMITER NOW.
THERE GO MY PERFECTLY CALIBRATED LEVELS.
MAX POWER
DING
DING
DING
YOUR SACRIFICE DOES NOT GO UNNOTICED.

OH, JP? COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE!
DON'T MAKE ME TAKE A HOSTAGE. I MEAN, I'D SORT OF LOVE FOR YOU TO MAKE ME TAKE A HOSTAGE.
FWOOM
GAHHH!
ENDING YOUR LITTLE DESTRUCTION SPREE IS INCENTIVE ENOUGH.
TOOK ME DOWN A PEG THERE, RED.
MAKE IT UP TO ME BY GIVING ME ANOTHER SWEET, SWEET RUSH?

WAIT! NO!
NO! PLEASE!
YOU LAID IT ON A BIT TOO THICK THERE, RED. AND TO THINK I WAS ALMOST FOOLED.
I'D STAY AND PLAY, BUT YOU'VE GOT NOTHING AND I GOT PLACES TO BE. HOPE MASQUE'S CREW PUT UP MORE OF A FIGHT.
DAMMIT. SHE KNEW IT WAS A TRAP.

THERE'S A MOMENT WHEN YOU FEEL IT. THE FEAR. YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS, BUT YOU'RE TOO AFRAID TO ADDRESS IT, BECAUSE ONCE YOU DO, YOU KNOW IT WILL COMPLETELY CONSUME YOU.
PARALYZE YOU.
IF THERE'S ONE THING I FEAR, IT'S BEING POWERLESS. NOT HAVING THE ABILITY TO CONTROL OR CHANGE MY CIRCUMSTANCES.
BUT I KNOW IF I'M GOING TO PROTECT THIS CITY FROM ELECTRO, IT'S TIME TO FINALLY FACE MY FEAR. RECOGNIZE IT FOR WHAT IT IS.
AND LET THAT CLARITY SHOW ME A PATH THROUGH THE DARK.

MENAGERIE IS DOWN. HEADING BACK YOUR WAY, BEETLE. WAIT UNTIL I TELL YOU ABOUT THE DUMB-ORELLA I JUST FACED.
HEY, ELECTRO!
HEADS UP!
YOUR FLIGHT'S ABOUT TO EXPERIENCE SOME *TURBULENCE.*

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE DOWN THE WHOLE ISLAND WITH THIS TORNADO! HURT HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE.
NOW *YOU'RE* LAYING IT ON A BIT TOO THICK, ELECTRO. I DON'T THINK YOU CARE ABOUT THEM. *YOU'RE* SCARED FOR *YOURSELF.*
AND YOU SHOULD BE.
AHH!
WHOA, ARE YOU GUYS SEEING THIS?
SALE
COME ON, MJ. YOU'VE GOT THIS.
CRASH

I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE, ELECTRO.
SO YOU CAN FIGHT BACK AND WAKE UP WITH SOME VERY PAINFUL BRUISES, OR YOU ACCEPT DEFEAT AND SAVE YOURSELF A WHOLE LOT OF PAIN.
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.
I DON'T DO WELL WITH ULTIMATUMS.
ZAAAT
HELP!
CRMBL
CRMBL
AHH!

YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE CHOICE TO MAKE NOW, JP. CAPTURE ME, OR SAVE THEM.
OH MY GOD.
ELECTRO THINKS I HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE, BUT I'VE ALREADY MADE IT.
THOSE PEOPLE NEED MY HELP.
BE CAREFUL, MJ.
SEE YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE.

WHOOOSH
CRACK
MJ?! MJ?!
BAD NEWS, PAUL.

I THINK WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO RESCHEDULE OUR DINNER PLANS.

LOOKING GOOD!
THAT SHOULD HOLD FOR NOW.
THANKS FOR THE ASSIST.
I WISH I COULD STAY, BUT I'VE GOT TO GET MY TECH LIMITER CHECKED OUT. YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME IF YOU NEED ANYTHING ELSE.
WE'RE GATHERING THE TROOPS FOR OUR BIG FINAL PUSH, MJ. IF YOU GET YOUR GAUNTLET FIXED UP, WE COULD USE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.
THAT RIGHT THERE IS A BREACH OF THE SECRET IDENTITY ACT. YOU COULD SUE HIM.
I'VE GOT YOUR CARD.
THWIP
SEE YOU AROUND, SPIDER-MAN.

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, OUR CHOICES LEAD US EXACTLY WHERE WE'RE MEANT TO BE.
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN MYSELF. HELP THOSE AROUND ME.
JACKPOT'S GIVEN ME THE ABILITY TO SAVE OTHERS, BUT THE TRUTH IS, SHE'S ALSO SAVED ME. NOT BY SHOWING ME WHO I CAN BE, BUT BY SHOWING ME WHO I ALREADY WAS.
HELP!
SOMEONE WHO HAS NEVER IN HER LIFE BEEN POWERLESS.
IT'S BEEN A LONG ROAD GETTING HERE, AND I'M JUST GETTING STARTED.
END.

Welcome to JACKPOT!

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO HAVE THIS COMIC OUT IN THE WORLD! I assume that most of you with us today are **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** readers and already Mary Jane fans. But just in case, I highly suggest you read at least **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN LGY #895–AMAZING SPIDER-MAN LGY #925** to get the lowdown on Mary Jane's road to becoming Jackpot! Completists should go back to **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN LGY #25** for her first semi-appearance or **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN LGY #42** for her first FULL appearance. Like most things in comics, her journey has been **WILD**!

We're so proud of this issue and the work of writer **CELESTE BRONFMAN**, **JOEY VAZQUEZ**, **ERIC GAPSTUR**, **EDGAR DELGADO**, **ERIC ARCINIEGA**, and **ARIANA MAHER**! MJ shines everywhere she goes, and this team showed that off so well. As for Electro, I was around for Francine Frye's first appearance and love whenever she shows up. Jerks are necessary in fiction, and Francine is one of the best!

As for where it goes next, you can follow MJ into **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #44** for the big finale of Gang War, but more importantly, you have to check out our new **JACKPOT & BLACK CAT** series launching in March of 2024! **CELESTE BRONFMAN**, our illustrious writer here, is continuing to tell MJ's story but adding in the other greatest character in comics history, Felicia Hardy, A.K.A. the Black Cat! Joining Celeste will be **EMILIO LAISO** (whom Spider-Fans will remember from some issues of ASM). This book is going to rule, have more twists and turns than you can even imagine, and continue to tell Mary Jane's wild story.

And write in to **SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM** and mark them 'okay to print' to let us know what you thought of this one-shot, and who knows--maybe it'll appear in a letters page of **ASM** or **JACKPOT & BLACK CAT**!

Keep Spinnin'!
Nick Lowe
Spider-Editor
New York, NY

THE GANG WAR CONTINUES!

NEXT:

JACKPOT & BLACK CAT #1

FOLLOW THE WAR

NOVEMBER 2023

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man: Gang War First Strike #1~~
- ☒ ~~Luke Cage: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Spider-Woman #1~~

DECEMBER 2023

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #39~~
- ☒ ~~Daredevil: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Luke Cage: Gang War #2~~
- ☒ ~~Miles Morales: Spider-Man #13~~
- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #40~~
- ☒ ~~Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #1~~
- ☒ ~~Miles Morales: Spider-Man #14~~
- ☒ ~~Spider-Woman #2~~

JANUARY 2024

- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #41~~
- ☒ ~~Daredevil: Gang War #2~~
- ☒ ~~Luke Cage: Gang War #3~~
- ☒ ~~Miles Morales: Spider-Man #15~~
- ☒ ~~Amazing Spider-Man #42~~
- ☒ ~~Spider-Woman #3~~
- ☒ ~~Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #2~~
- ☒ ~~Jackpot #1~~

FEBRUARY 2024

- ☐ Daredevil: Gang War #3
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #43
- ☐ Deadly Hands of Kung Fu: Gang War #3
- ☐ Miles Morales: Spider-Man #16
- ☐ Luke Cage: Gang War #4
- ☐ Spider-Woman #4
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #44

MARCH 2024

- ☐ Daredevil: Gang War #4